

REMARKS

Prompt and favorable allowance of the pending claims in the application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

1. In the drawings

The specification is corrected to overcome the objection to the drawings in the action.

Specifically, the specification at page 8, lines 15-17, is amended by the removal of “w” in reference to Fig. 2. As originally stated, the specification indicates that the wound dressing is intended to be placed against a wound bed. Other drawing figures, such as Figs. 5-9 exemplify the wound dressing placed over a wound bed. There is no need to identify a wound bed in Fig. 2 since the wound dressing is readily understood in connection with other drawings showing a wound bed w.

Further, the specification is amended on page 12 to provide a brief description on Fig. 12. Support for this description is found in originally-filed Fig. 12, and the specification on page 6, lines 4-10. No new matter is considered to be entered into the application by way of this amendment.

In view of the corrections to the specification, there is no need to actually correct the drawings. Removal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

2. In the specification

The specification is also amended to overcome the objection to the specification in the action.

First, as noted above in section (1), the specification is amended on page 12 to describe Fig. 12.

Next, the specification is amended to correctly denote the projection elements with reference numeral “57” instead of “56.”

In certain instances, reference numeral "43" now reads "47."

Lastly, reference to "the needles," has been replaced with the consistent usage of the term "the projection elements."

Because of the amendment to the specification, it is submitted that the specification is corrected in view of the informalities noted in the action. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

3. In the claims

In the "Amendment to the Claims," claim 1 is amended with the allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claim 7 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 8 is amended to depend from claim 1 in view of the cancellation of claim 7.

Because claim 1 is now amended with the allowable subject matter of claim 7, claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 11-16, which depend from claim 1, are considered to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 17-20 have already been allowed.

New claim 21 recites the absorbent core of allowed claim 20, a backing layer, and the allowable subject matter directed to the relationship of the backing layer to the absorbent core that was originally provided in claims 7 and 10. Claim 10 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 21 is considered to be in condition for allowance.

Entry of the amendment to the claims and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

4. Conclusion

As a result of the amendments to the specification and the claims, and the prior allowance of the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

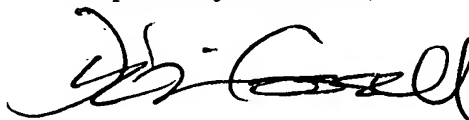
Application No.: 10/725,478
Examiner: Lewis Kim M.
Art Unit: 3772

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin J. Cassell", written in a cursive style.

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